





A Small Business Set-Aside

# Electric Vehicle Product Improvement Program

The Department of Energy (DOE), Purchasing Office, awarded contracts in June 1980 to small business firms to improve four electric vehicles using off-the-shelf technology and components. The contracts are to deliver two identical improved vehicle models within 8 months of the award. The contracts, which resulted from a competitive bidding process, are 12 months in duration and require complete reports and for DOE to accept the improved vehicles.

The improved vehicles are to have greater performance than present state of the art and are required to carry at least two persons plus cargo. The performance goals includes a range of 100 miles in stop-and-go traffic, passing speeds of 30 miles per hour, ability to climb grades of 10% and acceleration to 30 miles per hour in 10 seconds or less. Additional criteria required to be met in the program are operating and non-operating maintainability, and battery life.